

BRIERLEY HILL
URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL



REPORT

on the Work of the
**PUBLIC HEALTH
DEPARTMENT**

for 1945.

NORMAN V. HEPPLER,
Medical Officer of Health.

H. J. PARKER,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

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BRIERLEY HILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman of the Council :

Councillor J. N. HICKMAN, J.P., C.C.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor H. EDWARDS, J.P.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman :

Councillor T. WILLIAMS, M.B.E.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor H. HADEN.

All Members of the Council are Members of this Committee.

BRIERLEY HILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health :

*N. V. HEPPLER, M.D., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

(Also Assistant County Medical Officer of Health for Staffordshire and Medical Superintendent, West Midlands Joint Hospital Board).

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent :

*H. J. PARKER, M.S.I.A., Cert. R.S.I., Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

*J. W. BILLINGHAM, M.S.I.A., Cert. S.I.B., Cert., Meat and Foods Inspector.

*W. H. BOWMAN, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Cert., S.I.B., Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector. (Resigned 30/6/45).

*C. H. CRAWFORD, M.S.I.A., Cert., S.I.B., Cert., Meat and Food Inspector. (Appointed 26/11/45).

*W. WHITFIELD, M.S.I.A., Cert., S.I.B., A.M.I.P.C., Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector. (Appointed 3/12/45).

Veterinary Inspectors :

D. J. ANTHONY, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M.

D. HOWIE, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M.

Analyst :

E. V. JONES, Esq., County Buildings, Stafford.

Clerical Staff :

†N. BELLAMY
D. A. WARNER
B. GROVE

L. SMITH
B. D. COMPSON
E. WHILEY
C. I. SOUTHALL (Housing Visitor)

*Salary Contributions made by Exchequer Grants.

†H.M. Forces.

BRIERLEY HILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year ending 31st December, 1945.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF
BRIERLEY HILL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my eighth Annual Report on the activities of your Public Health Department.

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, the report is once more condensed and abbreviated.

The health of the district has remained satisfactory during the year.

The birth rate has continued at a high figure, maintained since the increase which was first apparent in 1942, and the death rate in young children has achieved a new low record.

Peace has, however brought its own problems, and the most urgent of these from a public health standpoint is undoubtedly the need for more housing accommodation. We have been fortunate during the last few years in keeping remarkably healthy. We may not always be so fortunate; and the degree of overcrowded and otherwise unsatisfactory housing which exists at the present time must be abated as soon as possible to minimise the dangers.

It is a pleasure to record my appreciation of the kindness and help I have received during the year from the Council, the Clerk and other Officers, and the staff of the Department.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

N. V. HEPPLE,

Medical Officer of Health

SECTION A

Statistics

Registrar General's estimate of population (mid 1945)	...	...	44,410
Area (in acres)	...	...	5,932
Rateable Value (1st April, 1945)	...	...	£175,232
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 1945-46	...	...	£674

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The year was essentially a year of war, and little change occurred in the social conditions of the district. Unemployment remained low, and wage levels were good.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1945

Live Births

						Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	819	435	384
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	37	19	18
Total	...	...	...	...	...	856	454	402

Birth Rate per 1,000 civilian population : 19.27.

Still Births

						Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	25	11	14
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	1
Total	...	...	...	...	...	29	14	15

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births : 32.76.

Deaths

Total	Males	Females
538	264	274

Death Rate per 1,000 civilian population : 12.11.

Comparability Factor

It was usual in days of peace for the Registrar General to supply a factor that enabled a true comparison to be made between the local death rate and that of other areas. Since the war, however, various circumstances have made the provisions of this factor impossible.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total Births
Puerperal Sepsis	0	0.00
Other Maternal Causes	2	2.26
	<hr/> 2 <hr/>	<hr/> 2.26 <hr/>

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :

All Infants per 1,000 live births	33.87
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate births ...	30.50
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	108.10
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	2
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	68

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS**Births**

The Birth Rate of 19.27 shows again a slight reduction from the rate for the previous year, 19.73. The rate for England and Wales is 16.1, and that for towns of comparable size is 19.2. The higher rates which have prevailed since 1942 are therefore being maintained, and are approaching the rate necessary to replace the population in the succeeding generation.

Deaths

The Death Rate of 12.11 per 1,000 population compares with the rate for the previous year of 11.10. The figure for the whole country is 11.4; that for the smaller towns 12.3.

The main causes of death in the order of importance numerically were Heart Disease, Cancer, Intracranial Vascular Lesions, Bronchitis and Pulmonary Tuberculosis. These conditions caused 309 deaths, considerably more than half the total deaths.

Natural Increase of Population

The number of births exceeded the number of deaths by 318.

Infantile Mortality

Twenty-nine children under one year of age died during the year, giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of 33.89 per 1,000 live births. The rate for 1944 was 38.72, and this was the lowest rate recorded in the area. Thus it will be seen that a new low record has been made.

In my last Annual Report I gave a table showing the Infantile Mortality Rates for the last ten years. In view of the interest in this matter I repeat it below :

Year						Infantile Mortality Rate.
1935	...	...	...	...	...	64
1936	...	...	...	...	...	85
1937	...	...	...	...	...	71
1938	...	...	...	...	...	49
1939	...	...	...	...	...	51
1940	...	...	...	...	...	42
1941	...	...	...	...	...	54
1942	...	...	...	...	...	50
1943	...	...	...	...	...	57
1944	...	...	...	...	...	39
1945	...	...	...	...	...	34

The rate for England and Wales is 46, and that for 146 towns of size comparable with Brierley Hill is 43.

The following table gives the ages at death of these children :

TABLE 1.

	Male	Female	Total
Days 0 - 1	3	1	4
- 7	5	4	9
- 14	3	3	6
- 31	1	—	1
Months - 6	1	5	6
- 12	1	2	3
Total under 1 year ..	14	15	29

From this it will be seen that 2/3 of the deaths occur in the first fortnight after birth.

The causes of death can be classified as follows :

Prematurity	...	...	...	...	10
Birth injury	...	...	...	...	7
Infection	...	...	...	...	5
Lack of attention	...	...	...	...	3
Congenital deformities	...	...	...	...	2
Other conditions	...	...	...	...	2

Maternal Mortality

Two maternal deaths occurred during the year, giving a Maternal Mortality Rate of 2.26 per 1,000 live births. This compares with rates of 1.79 for the whole country and 2.21 for 1934. Neither death was due to sepsis.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S RETURN.

TABLE I.

Diseases.	1945		
	Male.	Female.	Total.
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	1	1	2
Scarlet fever	—	—	—
Whooping cough	—	—	—
Diphtheria	2	2	4
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	13	15	28
Other forms of tuberculosis	2	3	5
Syphilitic diseases	3	—	3
Influenza	2	—	2
Measles	1	1	2
Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	1	—	1
Acute infantile infective encephaliti	—	—	—
Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M) and uterus (F)	1	5	6
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	9	7	16
Cancer of breast	—	8	8
Cancer of all other sites	20	18	38
Diabetes	1	4	5
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	26	32	58
Heart disease	45	57	102
Other diseases of circulatory system	7	8	15
Bronchitis	32	21	53
Pneumonia	5	6	11
Other respiratory diseases	3	3	6
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	2	3	5
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1	—	1
Appendicitis	1	1	2
Other digestive disorders	9	4	13
Nephritis	4	9	13
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	—	—	—
Other maternal causes	—	2	2
Premature birth	5	5	10
Congenital malformation, birth injury, infantile disorders	7	3	10
Suicide	3	2	5
Road traffic accidents	2	2	4
Other violent causes	11	7	18
All other causes	45	45	90
	264	274	538

Birthrates. Civilian Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case rates for certain infectious diseases in the year 1945. Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

TABLE III.

	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Popula- tions 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census	London Admin'tve County	Brierley Hill
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.					
Births :					
Live Births.. ..	*16.1	19.1	19.2	15.7	19.27
Still Births	*0.46	0.58	0.53	0.40	0.65
Deaths :					
All Causes	*11.4	13.5	12.3	13.8	12.11
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough ..	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.00
Diphtheria	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.09
Influenza	0.08	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.04
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.04
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.					
Deaths under 1 year of age	†46	54	43	53	33.87
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age ..	5.6	7.8	4.5	7.6	0.02

A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths.

† Per 1,000 related births.

* Rates per 1,000 total population.

Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.					
Notifications :					
Typhoid Fever ..	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.00
Scarlet Fever ..	1.89	2.02	2.03	1.57	1.50
Whooping Cough ..	1.64	1.65	1.47	1.25	2.23
Diphtheria	0.46	0.52	0.56	0.31	1.93
Erysipelas	0.25	0.28	0.24	0.31	0.49
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	11.67	10.89	11.19	9.03	20.29
Pneumonia	0.87	1.03	0.72	0.78	0.72

Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still) :—

(a) Notifications :						
Puerperal Fever ..	}	9.93	12.65	8.81	{ 3.60 +15.87 }	9.04
Puerperal Pyrexia ..						
†Including Puerperal Fever.						

TABLE III (Continued)

(b) Maternal Mortality—England and Wales :-

No. 140 Aborstion with Sepsis	141 Aborstion without Sepsis	147 Puerperal Infections	142-6 148-150 other	Brierley Hill
0.25	0.08	0.24	1.22	2.26

Abortion : Mortality per Million women aged 15-45—England and Wales.

No. 140 with Sepsis	No. 141 without Sepsis	Brierley Hill
18	6	0

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority

The Medical Officer of Health is also Assistant County Medical Officer for Staffordshire. This arrangement has many advantages, as it enables a proper integration of the Council's health functions with those services which are administered by the County Council. The Medical Officer also acts as Medical Superintendent for the Kingswinford Isolation Hospital of the West Midlands Joint Hospital Board.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector is also the Cleansing Superintendent. He is in charge of the administration of the Shops Acts, and also undertakes sampling work under the Food and Drugs Act, for which the Urban District Council is the Authority in this area.

The shortage of staff to which I referred in my last report has been overcome by new appointments, so that there are now three additional Sanitary Inspectors.

Two Veterinary Officers are employed by the Authority to inspect the meat at a large meat and bacon factory in the area.

Laboratory Facilities

The County Laboratory at Stafford continues to deal adequately with the large number of pathological and bacteriological specimens sent from this area.

The chemical analysis of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act is undertaken by the County Analyst, who acts for the Urban District Council.

Ambulance Service

The Ambulance Depot is at Hawbush. Two ambulances and one car provided by the Local Authority.

The following work was carried out during the year :

Mileage	16,962
Accidents	36
Maternity cases	68
Admissions	282
Discharges	299
Treatment cases	1,229
Removals	11

No charge is made to people resident in the Urban District. An ambulance service is provided for the Urban District of Amblecote and for part of the Rural District of Seisdon. A retaining fee and mileage charge is paid in each case.

Post Mortem Room

The facilities were improved during the year by the installation of a hot water supply, a gas fire, and modern lighting fittings.

Sixteen bodies were brought to the post mortem room during the year. The causes of death were as follows :

Natural causes	9
Suicide	1
Misadventure	1
Accidental Death	4
Inattention at birth	1

The average length of stay was $4\frac{3}{8}$ days.

Nursing in the Home

Five Nursing Associations at present operate in different parts of the district.

Clinics and Treatment Centres

The County Council provide School Clinics, Infant Welfare Centres and Ante-Natal clinics in the area. The particulars can be found in the Annual Reports of the appropriate Authority.

HOSPITALS

Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council.

(1) Infectious Diseases

The area is served by the hospitals of the West Midlands Joint Hospital Board, situated at Kingswinford, Moxley, Bilston and Wombourne.

(2) Small-Pox Hospital

This hospital is situated at Moxley and is under the control of a Small-Pox Joint Hospital Board, of which Brierley Hill is a constituent Authority. This hospital has been taken over by the West Midlands Joint Hospital Board as a hospital for infectious diseases, and other arrangements have been made for Small-Pox cases if they occur.

(3) Sanatoria

The County Council provide sanatoria for women at Kinver and Grounds-low, and for men at Prestwood. There is a children's sanatorium at Himley. Cases of surgical tuberculosis are treated at Standon Hall and the Woodlands.

(4) Orthopædic

The County have provided for the specialist treatment of these cases in special clinics and they are referred to hospital if they require in-patient treatment.

(5) Wordsley Emergency Hospital

This hospital is maintained by the County Council as a Grade 1 Emergency Hospital. It takes patients referred by the Public Assistance Committee.

(6) Maternity and Nursing Homes

There are no nursing homes in the area.

The County Council provide maternity beds at Wordsley Hospital.

(7) Other

There are no other provided hospitals, but the following general hospitals are within easy reach of the Urban District :

Corbett Hospital, Amblecote.

Guest Hospital, Dudley.

There are also the hospitals of Birmingham and Wolverhampton, all of which are within easy reach of the district.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

The District is served by two Companies. The Stourbridge and District Water Board supply 1,725 houses at Wordsley, while the rest of the area is served by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company. In both cases the supply comes from deep wells and bore holes in the New Red Sandstone to depths varying from 200 to 500 feet. The water is examined regularly and is of very good potable quality.

The following are typical analyses :

THE SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE WATERWORKS CO.

Count.	On nutrient agar after 48 hours' incubation at 37 degrees cen.	.....7.....colonies per ml.
	On nutrient agar after 72 hours' incubation at 20-22 degrees cen.	.....12... colonies per ml.

Coli Aerogenes Content (presumptive coli)	after 48 hours' incubation at 37 degrees cen.	...Nil...per 100 ml.
--	---	----------------------

Analysis					Parts per 100,000
Total solid matter dried at 212 degrees F	...	...	...	...	29.00
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	...	...	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	...	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	0.24
Chlorine	...	...	...	...	3.3
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80 degrees F.	...	...	...	...	Nil
Appearance	...	...	...	...	Clear
Injurious Metallic Contamination	...	...	...	...	None
pH Value	...	...	...	...	7.0
Free Chlorine	...	...	...	...	0.06
					part per million

STOURBRIDGE AND DISTRICT WATER BOARD

Count.	On nutrient agar after 48 hours' incubation at 37 degrees cen.	.....5.....colonies per ml.
	On nutrient agar after 72 hours' incubation 20-22 degrees cen.	.....11... colonies per ml.
Coli Aerogenes Content (presumptive coli)	after 48 hours' incubation at 37 degrees cen.	...Nil...per 100 ml.

Analysis	Parts per 100,000
Total Solid Matter dried at 212 degrees F.	37.00
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen	0.82
Chlorine	2.5
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80 degrees F.	Nil
Appearance	Clear
Injurious Metallic Contamination	None
pH Value	7.5

Drainage and Sewage Disposal

The Surveyor has kindly supplied the following information :

A sewer extension to serve 70 houses has been laid in Cot Lane. New sewers have been installed in the housing sites at Dunn's Bank, Tack Lane, and HuMand.

At the Round Hill Farm, where difficulty has been experienced in disposing of the sludge, preparations have been made for the installation of pumps, etc., to enlarge the area available for sludge disposal.

Public Cleansing

The Chief Sanitary Inspector is also the Cleansing Superintendent.. A report on the work will be found in his report.

SECTION D HOUSING

The remarks made in last year's report with regard to housing continued to apply during the year.

The chief problems facing the Council are both absolute and sex overcrowding. Many old dwellings are still occupied under licence and very many people are living in degrading and unhygienic conditions. The department has had to deal with an increasing flow of enquiries and complaints and many distressing cases have come to notice.

The Council set up during the year a separate Housing Department under a Chief Officer to deal with the planning, building and letting of Council houses, and Miss Southall was transferred to that department.

A start was made during the year to provide the additional houses so urgently required. 100 prefabricated bungalows — which look most unimpressive outside, but which do provide a modern home for the family of two or three — and 80 permanent houses were in course of erection during the year, while present plans provide for a total of 3,000 houses to be built in the next ten years.

In view of the fact that so little accommodation was available, the recommendations from this department have been practically confined to families in which infection constituted an urgent danger to health and life.

Details of work done will be found in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk and Other Foodstuffs

Sampling was undertaken throughout the year by the Sanitary Inspectors. Particulars of the results will be found in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's report.

Meat

Meat inspection occupied a great deal of the time of the Inspectors. Details are given in the Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Two Veterinary Officers are employed by the Council to inspect meat at a large meat factory in the area.

The Chief Veterinary Officer reports as follows :

I beg to submit the annual report, showing the activities of the veterinary department during the year 1945.

The following tables show the meat condemned as unfit for human food, both home killed, and imported, as well as the percentage of diseases found in the various classes of animals :

TABLE III. MEAT CONDEMNED, 1945 — PIGS.

Diseases.	Carcases	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stom- achs	Spleens	Kidneys	In- testines	Other Parts.
Tuberculosis	85	4359	2606	2596	2592	1100	619	179	5046	170 Fq. 6 Hq.
Pleurisy and Pneumonia	2	2	7998	2	2	2	2	4	2	5 Fq.
Pericarditis	—	—	—	3506	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis	—	—	—	—	1255	—	—	—	—	—
Peritonitis	2	2	2	2	2685	12	12	4	12	—
Hydatid Cysts	—	—	84	82	114	—	4	—	—	—
Fatty Infiltrn.	—	—	—	—	36	—	—	—	—	—
Congestion	—	—	11	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Hydronephrosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4376	—	—
Nephritis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	1	18 Hq.
Pyæmia	2	2	2	2	10	2	2	4	2	12 Fq.
Empyæma	—	—	16	16	—	—	—	—	—	10 Hq.
Fractures	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 Fq. 6 Hq. 1 Flk.
Bruising	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
S. Frysipelas	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	20	10	—
„ Fever	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	3	—
Jaundice	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	—
Variola Porcine	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Fevered Flesh	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	3	—
Lymphosarcoma	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Gangrene	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 Hq.
Hæmangioma	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Arthritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 Hq.
Carcinomata	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 Fq.
Emaciation	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	10	5	—
Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	—
Died in Lairage	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	16	8	—
Died in Transit	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	106	53	—
Totals	179	4453	10807	6294	6786	1204	727	4749	5170	191 Foreqrs. 43 Hindqrs. 1 Flank

MEAT CONDEMNED, 1945 — SHEP.

Diseases.	Carcases	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stomachs	Spleens	Kidneys	In- testines	Other Parts
Muelleriasis	—	—	473	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pleurisy and Pneumonia	1	1	56	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Pericarditis	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hydatid Cysts	—	3	463	116	639	—	8	1	—	—
Fascioliasis	—	—	—	—	879	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculousis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Pyæmia	—	6	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Empyæmia	—	3	3	3	3	—	3	—	—	3 Fq. 3 Hq. 2 Fq.
Oedema & Emaciation	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	10	5	—
Peritonitis	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Gangrene	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Bruising	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	—
Arthritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3 Fq. 8 Hq. 2 Fq.
Abcess	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 Hq. 1 Shank
Carcinoma	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Bacterial Necrosis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Jaundice	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Died in lairage	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Died in transit	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	3	—
Totals	15	27	1010	142	1542	15	27	31	15	10 Foreqrs. 12 Hindqrs. 1 Shank

MEAT CONDEMNED, 1945 — CALVES.

Diseases.	Carcases	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stomachs	Spleens	Kidneys	In- testines	Other Parts
Tuberculosis	1	1	12	11	11	1	11	2	1	—
Pleurisy and Pneumonia	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pyæmia	2	4	2	2	3	2	2	3	1	1 Fq.
Nephritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Abscess	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jaundice	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	—
Rachitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pericarditis	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	4 Shanks
Peritonitis	—	—	—	—	6	1	2	—	—	—
Cirrhosis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Empyæma	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Dermatitis	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Died in transit	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	—
Totals	8	12	23	20	26	9	20	17	8	1 Fq. 4 Shanks

MEAT CONDEMNED, 1945 — CATTLE.

Diseases.	Carcasses	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stomachs	Spleens	Kidneys	In- testines	Other Parts.
Actinomycosis	—	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5 Tongues 161 Fq. 13 Hq. 12 Flanks.
Tuberculosis	150	556	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 Fq. 1 Fq.
Pleurisy and Pneumonia	—	—	592	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pericarditis	—	—	1	21	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hydatid Cysts	—	—	198	—	123	—	6	4	—	—
Fascioliasis	—	—	—	—	1199	—	—	—	—	—
Bac. Necrosis	—	—	—	—	24	—	—	—	—	—
Haemangiomata	—	—	—	—	84	—	—	—	—	—
Peritonitis	3	3	3	3	78	17	116	6	5	2 Flanks
Pyæmia	—	2	1	—	17	—	2	—	—	1 Fq. 2 Briskets
Bruising	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	4 Fq. 1 Hq. 1 Flk. 1 Loin 1 Shin
Oedema and Emaciation	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	24	12	477 Udders
Mastitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Congestion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fatty Infiltration	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Gangrene	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1 Hq.
Melanosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nephritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—
Jaundice	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	8	4	—
Septicaemia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Died in lairage	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	—
Totals	175	602	1811	445	1770	126	247	366	566	5 Tongues, 169 Fqs. 15 Hqs. 15 Flanks 2 Briskets 1 Loin 1 Shin 477 Udders

Tables showing percentage of pathological conditions encountered in the course of meat inspection.

TABLE IV.

PIGS.		CATTLE.	
Pleurisy and Pneumonia	8%	Fascioliasis	22%
Tuberculosis	5%	Tuberculosis	18%
Hydronephrosis	4%	Pleurisy and Pneumonia	10%
Pericarditis	3%	Mastitis	9%
Peritonitis	2%	Hydatid Cysts	3%
Cirrhosis	1%	Peritonitis	2%
Hydatid Cysts	0.1%	Haemangioma	1%
Fatty Infiltration	0.03%	Actinomycosis	0.4%
Pyæmia	0.02%	Pericarditis	0.4%
Empyæma	0.02%	Bacterial Necrosis	0.4%
Enteritis	0.02%	Pyæmia	0.4%
Fractures	0.01%	Bruising	0.2%
Bruising	0.01%	Oedema and Emaciation	0.2%
Swine Erysipelas	0.01%	Nephritis	0.1%
Nephritis	0.008%	Fatty Infiltration	0.07%
Emaciation	0.004%	Jaundice	0.07%
Haemangioma	0.003%	Congestion	0.03%
Swine Fever	0.003%	Gangrene	0.03%
Fevered Flesh	0.003%	Melanosis	0.01%
Jaundice	0.002%	Septicæmia	0.01%
Arthritis	0.002%		
Carcinoma	0.002%	Died in lairage	0.03%
Lymphosarcoma	0.001%		
Died in Lairage	0.008%	SHEEP.	
Died in Transit	0.05%	Fascioliasis	5%
CALVES.		Hydatid Cysts	3%
Tuberculosis	0.3%	Muelleriasis	2%
Pleurisy and Pneumonia	0.1%	Pleurisy and Pneumonia	0.3%
Pyæmia	0.1%	Pyæmia	0.07%
Peritonitis	0.1%	Bruising	0.07%
Nephritis	0.03%	Pericarditis	0.04%
Jaundice	0.03%	Empyæma	0.03%
Pericarditis	0.03%	Oedema and Emaciation	0.03%
Abcess	0.01%	Peritonitis	0.01%
Rachitis	0.01%	Arthritis	0.01%
Cirrhosis	0.01%	Abscess	0.01%
Empyæma	0.01%	Tuberculosis	0.005%
Dermatitis	0.01%	Gangrene	0.005%
Died in transit	0.03%	Carcinoma	0.005%
		Bac. Necrosis	0.005%
		Jaundice	0.005%
		Died in Lairage	0.005%
		Died in Transit	0.002%

TABLE V.

POST-MORTEM EXAMINATIONS ON ANIMALS HAVING DIED A NATURAL DEATH.

Cause of Death.	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Totals
Syncope	1	2	—	33	36
Pneumonia	—	2	2	12	16
Impaction	—	—	1	12	13
Swine Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	5	5
Pericaditis	1	—	—	2	3
Suffocation	—	—	—	2	2
Anaemia	—	—	—	1	1
Peritonitis	—	—	1	—	1
Bruising	—	—	1	—	1
Dysentery	—	—	1	—	1
Swine Fever	—	—	—	1	1
Totals	2	4	6	68	80

The Imported meat etc., condemned was as follows :-

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Beef		7	3	25	4
Pork		7	3	25	4
Bacon		1	2	21	
Mutton				12	
Baked Beans				4	
Canned meats		15	3	6	3
	1	13	2	9	11

During the year assistance was continued to the research workers of Salmonella infection, at the request of the Ministry of Food.

Material has also been supplied to the Universities of Cambridge and Liverpool, as well as the Royal Veterinary College Hospital, Birmingham.

TABLE VI (Continued)

TABLE VI (Continued)

		Erysipelas		Cerebro-Spinal		Other Notifiable Diseases	*	Orig. Not.		Final Nos.	
		M	F	M	F			M	F	M	F
Nos. originally notified	..	9	13	—	—	Puerperal Pyrexia	Civilians	—	8	—	8
Civilians (All ages)	..	—	—	—	—			—	2	—	2
Non-Civilians (All ages)	..	—	—	—	—			—	—	—	—
Final Nos. after correction :		1	—	—	—	Opthalmia Neonatorum	Malaria (contracted in England & Wales	—	—	—	—
0 — ..	..	1	1	—	—			—	—	—	—
5 — ..	..	—	4	—	—			—	—	—	—
15 — ..	..	4	8	—	—	Non-Civilians	Puerperal, Pyrexia	—	—	—	—
45 — ..	..	2	—	—	—			—	—	—	—
65 and over ..	..	1	—	—	—			—	—	—	—
Age NK ..	..	—	—	—	—	Malaria (contracted in England & Wales	Non-Civilians	—	—	—	—
Total Civilians	..	9	13	—	—			—	—	—	—
Non-Civ. { 15 — or NK	..	—	—	—	—			—	—	—	—
{ 45 and over	..	—	—	—	—			—	—	—	—
Total Non-Civilians	..	—	—	—	—						

* Disease and Sex, but not Age.

Diphtheria

106 notifications of diphtheria were received during the year. In 20 of these the diagnosis was not confirmed on further investigation in hospital. The final diagnosis in these cases were as follows :

Scarlet Fever	2
Vincent's Angina	1
Tonsillitis	10
Carrier with tonsillitis	5
Healthy carrier	2

The actual number of confirmed cases was therefore 86, giving an attack rate of 1.93 per 1,000 population, as compared with 1.07 for the previous year and 0.56 for 148 towns of comparable size.

There were four deaths during the year, giving a mortality rate of 0.9 per 1,000 population. **All were unimmunised.**

The ages at death were as follows :

0—1 year	Nil
5— years	1
—15 years	2
over 15 years	1

There were 34 cases notified in immunised persons. Most of these were mild in type, and all made complete recoveries.

The case mortality rates in immunised and unimmunised children are therefore :

	Per thousand attacked
Immunised children	Nil
Unimmunised children	76.9

These data provide a very cogent argument in favour of diphtheria immunisation.

Immunisation

The Infant and Junior departments of schools in the area were visited at intervals during the year by the Medical Officer of Health, and the staff of the County Council Welfare Centres continued to press for immunisation of the pre-school children.

An opportunity is given for those children immunised in infancy to have a further re-inforcing injection when they start school.

The following figures show the progress made during the year :

		Under 5 years	5 to 15 years	Total
Number immunised during 1945	... ..	644	166	810

	At 31st December, 1944.		At 31st December, 1945.	
	Under 5 years	5 - 15 years	Under 5 years.	5 - 15 years
Estimated population	3,972	6,824	4,002	7,149
Estimated percentage who had received com- plete course of immunisation.	47.02	91.92	51.32	92.42

The following table gives complete figures of work done up to 31st December, 1945.

Number of children fully immunised at any time up to 31-12-45.

Year of Birth	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1936-40	1931-35	Total under 15
No. immunised	—	446	566	569	479	3,341	3,237	8,632
Estimated mid. year population 1945.			4,002			7,149		11,151

In addition 1,025 of these children had been re-immunised at 31st December, 1945. These results have only been achieved because of the excellent co-operation of the teaching profession in the district and the county medical and health visiting staff.

The Urban District Council ceased to be the authority for the immunisation of pre-school children at the end of the year, the functions then being transferred to the County Council.

By arrangement, however, the Council will continue to act as agents of the County Council for sending out birthday cards to one year old children and for providing sweets at immunisation clinics.

Scarlet Fever

67 notifications were received during the year, giving a notification rate of 1.50 per 1,000 civilian population, compared with rates of 1.99 for 1934 and 1.89 for the County as a whole.

The disease continued to be of mild type.

Erysipelas

22 cases were notified giving a rate of 0.49.

Pneumonia

32 cases were notified during the year. This gives a notification rate of 0.72, compared with 0.87 for the whole country.

Puerperal Pyrexia

There were 8 notifications during the year. The County Council provide consultants and hospital treatment when necessary.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

2 cases were notified, giving a rate of 2.33 per 1,000 live births.

Whooping Cough

There were 99 notifications, compared with 110 for the previous year. The notification rate of 2.23 compares with 1.64 for the country as a whole.

Measles

The bi-ennial measles epidemic occurred during the first quarter of the year. There were 901 notifications altogether, giving a rate of 20.29 per 1,000 population, compared with 2.80 for 1944. There were two deaths.

Scabies

The scabies clinic continued to hold two sessions weekly during the year.

118 patients attended, 83 of these being school children. They made 296 total attendances.

Tuberculosis.

52 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were brought to notice by notification or otherwise. This gives an attack rate of 1.17 per 1,000 population. There were 9 new non pulmonary cases.

The following table gives a summary of the Register for 1945.

ABLE VII.

	MALES		FEMALES		Total
	Pul-monary	Non-Pul-monary	Pul-monary	Non-Pul-monary	
Number on register 1st January, 1945	151	59	164	50	424
New Notifications, 1945 ..	27	4	21	4	56
Number restored to register, having been removed in previous quarter	—	—	—	—	—
Cases brought to notice otherwise than by formal notification	4	—	—	1	5
Number removed from register 1945	22	3	22	5	52
Number on Register 31st December, 1945	160	60	163	50	433

Age and Sex of New Cases and Deaths from Tuberculosis—1945.

TABLE VIII.

Age	New Cases.				Cases removed from register due to Death			
	Males		Females		Males		Females	
	Pul-monery	Non-Pul-monery	Pul.monery	Non-Pul-monery	Pul-monery	Non-Pul-monery	Pul-monery	Non-Pul-monery
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—5	—	3	1	2	—	—	—	1
—15	1	—	1	3	1	—	1	—
—25	2	1	8	—	2	1	7	—
—35	10	—	4	—	2	—	3	—
—45	6	—	3	—	1	—	2	—
—55	6	—	1	—	1	—	1	—
—65	5	—	3	—	5	—	3	1
65andover	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Total..	31	4	21	5	13	1	17	2

CANCER.

There were 68 Deaths from Cancer during 1945, giving a death rate of 1.52 per 1,000 population.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

I present herewith the Report on the work carried out in my Department during 1945.

During the year the outside work suffered considerably due to the fact that for eleven months there was one District Inspector short, and for five months there was a deficiency of a second District Inspector.

Two additional Inspectors were appointed and commenced duties in December.

There was a considerable falling off in the collection of waste paper, etc., due, principally, to the termination of hostilities, but in spite of this there was a surplus of income over expenditure of £427 0s. 0d.

Again I should like to place a record of my appreciation of the help and assistance given to me by the staff who have, at all times, responded to the many calls.

It was in consequence of their help and co-operation that it was possible to carry on with the many additional duties relating to A.R.P., Billeting, Petrol and Transport, with shortage of staff.

Towards the end of the year some of these duties commenced to diminish.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, 1945 (Houses other than Council Houses)

Housing

					Inspections	Re- Inspections
Section 9	...	...	...	...	13	73
Section 11	...	...	...	...	18	5
Section 12	...	...	...	...	2	—
Other Visits	...	...	...	...	5	—

Public Health Acts

Houses	...	...	...	...	418	1,717
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	61	3

				Inspections	Re-Inspections
Water Supply	...	...	...	7	2
Schools	...	...	...	—	1
Entertainment Houses	...	...	...	10	3
Ashes Accommodation	...	...	...	32	32
Accumulations	...	...	...	10	6
Animals or Birds	...	...	...	3	—
Yards, Courts, etc.	...	...	...	1	—
Drainage Inspection	...	...	...	68	61
Drainage Tested	...	...	...	28	6
Water Closets, Wash Houses, etc.				104	64
Cesspools	...	...	...	21	30
Urinals	...	...	...	21	5
Sewers and Street Gullies	...	...	...	22	5
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	219	11
Rag and Bone Dealers	...	...	...	1	—
Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	18	—
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	7	—

Bye-Laws

Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	47	36
Stable Premises	...	...	...	8	1
Piggeries	...	...	...	69	11
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	170	1
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	7	—
Petroleum Act	...	...	...	6	1

Factory Act

Factories	...	...	...	48	25
Bakehouses	...	...	...	37	8
Outworkers	...	...	...	1	—

Food and Drugs Act

Food Premises and Markets	...	...	...	98	—
Cowsheds	...	...	...	48	28
Dairies	...	...	...	72	37
Cold Stores	...	...	...	14	—

	Inspections.	Re-Inspections.
Ice Cream Premises	67	52
Fish Fryers	29	2
Meat Shops	73	2
Interviews with Owners, etc., on property	264	—
Meat and Food Surrenders...	25	—
Miscellaneous Visits	116	—

Complaints

384 complaints were received against 463 for 1944: 250 related to stoppages in drain pipes. All of these received immediate attention, a workman from the Cleansing Department being sent to the property to relieve the nuisance.

134 of the complaints related to defective housing conditions, all of which were investigated and action taken where necessary.

During the year complaints were received of emissions of grit from two industrial plants, and in the one case it was found to be due to a new boiler fired by means of pulverised fuel. After investigations, an agreement was reached for grit chambers and spraying apparatus to be installed—this was in progress at the end of the year.

The other complaint was from a works which had, off and on, given trouble from grit emissions. Nothing other than the complete reconstruction of the boiler plant would, in my view, remedy the nuisance. This, the Company stated, they proposed to carry out together with the reconstruction of the works.

Infectious Disease Prevention

Two hundred and nineteen visits were made to cases of infectious diseases including revisits: 201 houses were disinfected.

Considerable attention has been given to the elimination of the bed bug and the following table gives some idea of the work carried out:

Council Houses.

Other Houses.

Vermin	Number of Houses Sprayed	Number of Sprayings	Vermin found	Vermin	Number of Houses Sprayed	Number of Sprayings	Vermin found
Bugs	142	424	44	Bugs	14	14	2
Crickets	3	3	—	Crickets	—	—	—
Cock-roaches	1	1	—	Cock-roaches	12	12	5
Ants	7	7	3	Ants	—	—	—
Fleas	7	7	2	Fleas	1	1	—
Total	160	442	49	Total	27	27	7

In a number of houses two or three sprayings were carried out during the year.

In all 469 sprayings were carried out, zaldecide being used.

During the year the attention of the Council was called to the need for very strict supervision of persons who are likely to be re-housed by the Authority.

Sanitary Improvements Carried out as a Result of Inspections made and Notices Served. (Work actually carried out).

Dwelling-houses

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	108
House brickwork repointed	...	...	...	...	9
Gables, cement rendered	...	...	...	...	4
Chimney stacks repointed	...	...	...	...	13
Chimney pots provided and repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Defective brickwork of walls rebuilt	...	...	...	...	2
Dangerous walls rebuilt or repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Rainwater spouting repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	56
Vertical damp proof courses provided	...	...	...	...	1
Horizontal damp courses provided	...	...	...	...	1
Walls and Ceilings :					
Plasterwork repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	148
Walls and ceilings cleansed	...	...	...	...	104
New firegrates provided	...	...	...	...	5
Firegrates repaired	...	...	...	...	18
New doors provided	...	...	...	...	1

Doors and door frames repaired	16
New door sills provided	1
Latches provided	9
Door steps repaired or renewed	6
New windows provided	8
Windows repaired	87
Sash cords renewed	74
Top sashes of windows hung	1
Window fasteners provided	13
Windows made to open	3
New window casements provided	2
Quarry floors repaired or renewed	11
Livingroom floors repaired or renewed	19
Bedroom floors repaired or renewed	25
Stairs repaired	2
Hand rails on stairs provided or repaired	2
Pantry floors repaired or renewed	6
Pantries limewashed	26
New covers to cellar lights provided	1
Cellar walls limewashed	1
Verandahs repaired	1
Dirty houses — tenant's neglect	1
Dirty bedding — tenant's neglect	2
Baths cleansed	1
Boundary walls rebuilt	1
Miscellaneous	1

Wash-houses, Water Closets, etc.

Wash-house roofs repaired	16
Wash-house doors repaired or renewed	8
Wash-house chimneys repointed or rebuilt	1
Wash-house windows repaired or renewed	2
Wash-house floors repaired	1
Insanitary brick sinks demolished	1
New earthenware sinks provided	2
Water supply provided to sinks	2
Wash-houses limewashed	7
Washing boilers provided or repaired	8
Washing furnaces provided or repaired	12

Brickwork of washing boilers repaired	...	13
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed	...	1
Gully taps provided	... ..	3
New water closets provided	... ..	2
Water closet brickwork repaired or repointed		6
Water closet roofs repaired	... ..	3
Water closet floors repaired or renewed	...	2
Water closet doors repaired	... ..	13
Leaking W.C. joints repaired	... ..	7
Water closet flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	... ..	22
Water closet pans provided	... ..	3
Water closet seats renewed	... ..	7
Rainwater spouting provided or repaired to wash-houses and W.C.'s	... ..	7
Water closets limewashed	... ..	8
Coal Stores repaired	... ..	1
Yards paved or paving repaired	... ..	2
Ashpits demolished	... ..	1
Ashbins provided	... ..	737
Dirty W.C. pans — tenant's neglect	... ..	8
Miscellaneous	... ..	1

Drainage

New drainage laid	... ..	11
Houses provided with proper drainage	... ..	7
Obstructed drains cleared	... ..	250
Drains repaired or reconstructed	... ..	13
Inspection chambers provided	... ..	2
New covers provided to inspection chambers	...	3
Trapped drain inlets provided	... ..	2
Ventilation shafts provided	... ..	1
Waste pipes repaired	... ..	12
Miscellaneous	... ..	2

Slaughterhouses

Walls limewashed after notice	... ..	2
Lairage limewashed	... ..	2
Yards relaid	... ..	1
Miscellaneous	... ..	6

Food Premises

Food shops cleansed	7
Hot water supply provided	...	...	...	...	4
Fish frying rooms cleansed	...	...	...	...	3
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	3

Smoke Abatement

Smoke nuisance remedied	1
-------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Shops Acts

W.C. accommodation provided	...	...	...	...	1
Forms required to be exhibited	...	...	...	...	2
Stores cleansed	...	...	...	...	3

Ice Cream Premises

Sterilising apparatus provided	...	...	...	...	9
Separate rooms for manufacture	...	...	...	...	8
Rooms cleansed	...	...	...	...	3
Hot water supply provided	...	...	...	...	8

Licensed Premises

Sanitary conveniences limewashed	...	...	...	...	1
Sanitary conveniences not screened	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	1

Offensive Trades

Marine store dealer's premises limewashed	1
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Milk and Dairies

Walls of cowsheds limewashed after notice	...	...	...	...	7
Dairies limewashed	...	...	...	...	7
Dirty milking stools	...	...	...	...	1
Insanitary yard	...	...	...	...	2
Dirty cowsheds	...	...	...	...	1
Dirty cows	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	1

Factories and Workshops

Factories and workshops limewashed	1
W.C. or urinals limewashed	...	...	...	...	11
W.C.'s repaired	...	...	...	...	6
Washing facilities provided	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	1

Bakehouses

Limewashed after notice	8
-------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Other Nuisances

Stables limewashed	...	...	...	...	1
Manure receptacles provided	...	...	...	...	1
Caravans removed	...	...	...	...	13
Accumulations of manure and other refuse removed	...	...	...	...	6

Letter and Notices Sent Out

Preliminary notices and Housing Schedules	...	...	...	...	316
Letters	...	...	...	...	1,054

Statutory Notices

Public Health Act, 1936 :					
Section 45	...	...	...	...	6
Section 75	...	...	...	...	17
Section 83	...	...	...	...	1
Section 93	...	...	...	...	27
Housing Act, 1936 :					
Section 9 (repairs)	...	...	...	...	3

HOUSING ACT, 1936

During the year numbers 37 and 39, Delph Lane, Brierley Hill, were reported as unfit due to mining subsidence, and the Council accepted an undertaking from the owner that the houses should not be used for human habitation after the present tenants had been re-housed.

There are still 181 houses in occupation on which Orders under the Housing Act are operative. There are a considerable number of these houses which it is impossible to continue in occupation, and the tenants of these should be re-housed as soon as houses are available.

Thirteen houses are still opened under Licences granted in accordance with the Defence Regulations.

Applications were received to re-open two other houses on which Orders are operative, but in both cases the condition of the houses was such that the Licences could not be granted.

OVERCROWDING

A considerable amount of overcrowding exists in the area, chiefly due to the occupation of houses by two or more families.

The total number of known statutory cases at the end of the year was 152.

In order to deal with the large numbers of applications for houses and rehousing, a Points Scheme was adopted, but I am of the opinion that if extreme care is not taken, persons in what is termed the "Statutory preference groups" may not receive the priority they should.

COUNCIL HOUSES

The duty of supervision of houses owned by this Authority is carried out by this Department, one female inspector being employed on this work.

During the year a Representative from the Ministry of Health called to enquire into the methods adopted by this Authority in dealing with Council Houses, and urged that more attention should be given to welfare work. It was pointed out to the representative that this type of work had been carried out to this Authority's houses since 1938, following on the lines suggested in a report of the Ministry of Health.

Visits were made to certain authorities to ascertain the proper method of dealing with Council houses and systems perused. Following this, the Council decided to transfer the work carried out by this Department to the Housing Department but I must emphasise that office routine and systems do not always give results. The only real test is by an inspection of houses and compared with conditions in this area.

During the year the following inspection work was carried out :

Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	897
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	...	2,063
Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	47

An investigation was carried out at all houses owned by the Council as to their degree of occupation and a special report was presented to the Estates Committee calling their attention to the number of three and four bedroom houses which were occupied by one person only.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

During the year 3,313 pigs were examined at the two bacon factories still remaining under my supervision and this total represents the whole of the animals slaughtered on the premises. 11.3 per cent. of these were found to be affected with tuberculosis. One whole carcase was condemned and 289 carcasses were affected with tuberculosis in some part or organ. The number in which some part or organ was affected with other diseases was 229.

In addition 518 pigs were examined on private premises against 897 for 1944.

The following is a list of food stuffs condemned at the various shops :

19 lbs. Butter.

55 lbs. Cheese.

70 lbs. Dates.

25 lbs. Sultanas.

62 lbs. Prunes.

30 lbs. Dried Beans.

4 lbs. Suet.

6 lbs. Bacon.

30 Eggs.

1 Box Raisins.

1 Box Cod.

1,240 tins Miscellaneous Foodstuffs.

As far as possible the whole of these were utilised, either for fat rendering or for feeding of animals, so that very little was actually wasted.

The total weight of meat and food condemned (excluding tinned goods) was 2 tons 7 cwt. 1 qr. 27 lbs.

No.	Article.	Formal	Informal	Remarks.
22	Milk	21	1	Genuine.
1	Do. (Sterilised) ..	1	—	Genuine.
1	Do. Do. ..	1	—	Trace of added water.
1	Do.	1	—	16.7% deficient in fat. Appeal to cow.
1	Do.	1	—	5.3% deficient in fat. Appeal to cow.
1	Do.	1	—	27.7% deficient in fat. Appeal to cow.
1	Do.	1	—	7.3% deficient in fat. Warning letter
APPEALS TO COW.				
1	Milk	1	—	Genuine.
1	Do.	1	—	17.7% deficient in fat
1	Do.	1	—	19.3% deficient in fat.
1	Do.	1	—	7.7% deficient in fat.
1	Do.	1	—	25.7% deficient in fat
1	Do.	1	—	27.3% deficient in fat
1	Do.	1	—	16.7% deficient in fat.
1	Do.	1	—	46.3% deficient in fat.
MISCELLANEOUS.				
20	Misc. Foodstuffs ..	—	20	Genuine.
1	Batter Flour ..	—	1	Contained live acari.

Of the samples of milk submitted for analysis four were reported as being deficient in fat and in three instances appeal to cow samples were taken, as follows :

16.7 per cent. deficient in fat — Appeal to cow 17.7 per cent. deficient in fat

5.3 per cent. deficient in fat — Appeal to cow 19.3 per cent. deficient in fat
and in the 27.7 per cent deficient in fat four appeal to cow samples were taken :
these vary between 7.7 per cent. and 46.3 per cent. deficient in fat.

These samples were all taken by the County Sampling Officer and investigations showed that the deficiency was primarily due to the fact that the cows were being partly milked and the calves put to the cows afterwards.

The existing case law holds that it is not an offence to sell milk below standard providing it is the actual product of the cow and that the deficiency is brought about by improper feeding or milking. This was decided in 1916 and in view of this decision one would have thought that when the Food and Drugs Act was revised, that some steps would have been taken to embody in the Food and Drugs Act of 1938, a section making it an offence where deficiencies had been brought about by improper milking.

Representations were made to the Ministry of Health by this Authority on this matter.

During the year 17 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination and set out below is a table showing the analysis of results :

Plate counts in 1 c.c.				B. Coli content in			
Under 30,000	30,000 to 200,000	200,000 to 500,000	Over 500,000	Nil.	1/10th c.c.	1/100th c.c.	1/1000 th c.c.
4	10	0	3	3	4	5	5

Samples were also submitted as follows :

Methylene Blue Test : 7 satisfactory — 4 unsatisfactory.

Phosphatase Test : 6 satisfactory — 1 unsatisfactory

In addition eight samples of milk produced in this area were submitted for examination for the detection of Tuberculosis : these gave negative results.

Ice Cream

During the year a number of applications were received from persons who proposed either to sell or manufacture ice cream, and after inspection of the premises the following were registered :

12 premises for manufacture and sale.

14 premises for storage and sale.

In all cases before registration was made, proper means for sterilisation of utensils had to be made and where the ice cream was manufactured a separate room, with hot and cold water laid on, to be provided.

Five samples of ice cream were submitted for bacteriological examination.

Food Premises

One application was received for premises to be registered for the frying of fish and potatoes. Notice was given as required by the Food and Drugs Act to the applicant to attend before the Public Health Committee, who declined to register the premises.

Milk and Dairies

The following are registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1926—1943 :

Dairymen	...	...	...	...	...	34
Retail Purveyors of Bottled Milk	...	...	...	...	...	250

There are seventeen cowsheds in the area : these are in fair condition.

Licences issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936—1942 :

Supplementary :

Tuberculin tested	...	...	...	...	...	3
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	3

Slaughterhouses

There are 20 slaughterhouses in the area, four of these only are in use at the present time.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

There are 64 slaughtermen licensed to carry out the work of slaughtering. One man was licensed during the year.

Water Supply

During the year ten samples of water were taken and submitted both for chemical and bacteriological analysis as follows :

Mains supply	...	...	...	...	...	7
Shallow wells	...	...	...	...	...	3

The samples from the mains supply were satisfactory : the samples from the wells were reported as polluted.

The polluted samples related to three wells which supply five houses and the question of providing a pipe supply to these houses was under consideration at the end of the year.

There are nine houses in the district at present using water from wells all other houses have a piped supply.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919

The following is a list of the work carried out under this Act :

Area	No. of premises	No. of visits	Pre-baits	Poison Baits
Brierley Hill and Brockmoor	96	300	1,306	888
Quarry Bank	28	89	345	205
Wordsley	15	67	177	84
Kingswinford and Wallheath	31	89	230	207
Pensnett	24	67	193	169
River Stour	—	7	64	36
Total	194	619	2,315	1,589

The owners of twenty-five industrial premises requested this Authority to carry out dis-infestation work at their works, the amount charged to these concerns being £137 5s. 10d.

During the month of May one sewer maintenance treatment was carried out as follows :

Number of manholes baited	...	...	...	122
Number of pre-bait takes	...	...	...	23
Number of "C" takes	...	...	...	4

Assistance was given to one neighbouring Authority who had no Rodent Operative.

Factory Act, 1937

Factories with Mechanical Power	...	...	131
Factories without Mechanical Power	...	...	122
Bakehouses	...	...	18

Six notices were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories relating to insanitary conditions, and these had attention.

Two outworkers' lists were received, notifying two outworkers. Six lists notifying seven outworkers were received from other districts.

Shops Acts

There are 701 shops on the register.

Petroleum Act

There are 99 licensed premises to store petroleum spirit in the area, the total amount licensed being 88,300 gallons. Licence fees amounting to £59.

In addition five licences to store Calcium Carbide were issued: total amount 16,128 lbs.: licence fees £2 10s. 0d.

TOWN AMBULANCE

In the early part of the year the arrangements by which the Council's Ambulance Service had been run in conjunction with the County A.R.P. Services came to an end and other arrangements had to be made. After consideration by the Public Health Committee I was asked to take over the running and maintenance of this service.

In consequence of a report made it was decided to acquire an A.R.P. Ambulance as a second ambulance and an additional car was also purchased.

The number of vehicles used on this service is two ambulances and two cars which are manned by two male drivers and three female driver-attendants.

The scheme, as outlined, provides for housing accommodation to be found for the drivers near the ambulance station, which is at Hawbush.

The total mileage run by the vehicles during the year was 16,962 and 1,925 patients were dealt with.

H. J. PARKER,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Staff

The work carried out by this Department relates to House Refuse Collection and Disposal, Salvage, Street Sweeping, Gully and Cesspool emptying and the Cleansing of Public Conveniences, the following staff being, at present, employed :

						H.R.C. Sweeping, etc.	Salvage
Men	...	...	...	...	...	27	4
Women	...	...	...	...	...	—	10
Boys	...	...	...	...	...	—	2

There was some slight improvement in the labour conditions due to three of the men in the Services returning at the end of the year, but the position is still acute owing to the fact that there is a considerable shortage in the labour strength.

Vehicles

No new vehicles have been purchased. The following are still in use :
 3 S.D. Freighters (7 cub. yards).
 1 S.D. Gully Emptier—dual purpose (7 cub. yards).
 2 Morris (2 ton and 1 ton).
 1 Ford (1 ton).

In addition there is one horse vehicle.

It will be necessary for a new refuse collecting vehicle to be purchased shortly if the weekly collection is to be recommenced.

Collection

Refuse collection is fortnightly from all moveable receptacles and if the labour situation improves it may be possible, in 1946, to revert to a weekly collection.

At the beginning and end of the year difficulties arose due to the large number of workmen who were away ill, the consequence being arrears in the collection of house refuse from ashbins, but the work was eventually brought up to date.

Fixed receptacles have been emptied regularly at three monthly intervals.

The following table gives some indication of the work carried out :

Vehicles.	Number of Loads.				Total
	Bins	Fixed receptacles	Cesspools	Trade Refuse	
S.D.1.	376	—	—	—	376
S.D.2.	1,530	—	—	—	1,530
S.D.3.	1,706	—	—	—	1,706
M.C.4.	112	56	—	11	179
S.D.5.	190	—	263	—	433
Horse Vehicle.	53	327	—	136	516
Total	3,967	383	263	247	4,740

Again owing to the difficulty in bin replacement, a considerable number of new receptacles were sold to owners. This not only assisted them but also helped the collectors in their work. In all, 737 bins were provided; all these were of a standard type and galvanised.

Disposal

All the house refuse has again been disposed of by tipping at the Leys Estate and controlled. Two men are employed on this work.

During October the Council were able to purchase a second-hand weigh-bridge, which was installed at the Leys Estate, and commencing November all house refuse was weighed.

Street Sweeping

Again this work has been carried out under extreme difficulties, only seven men being available, four not being able bodied.

During the year the question of purchasing a mechanical sweeper was considered and the Council decided, in March, that one should be acquired. An application was made in April for a licence to purchase a chassis and it was not until towards the end of October that this was received. A Lewin Sprinkler Sweeper was then ordered with a delivery date for the middle of 1946.

491 loads of street sweepings were removed by the Horse Vehicle during the year.

Gully Cleansing

There are 1,406 street gullies. These have been emptied at intervals of eight to ten weeks by mechanical means, 5,372 cleansings being effected and 273 loads being removed from the gullies.

Cesspools

There are 98 cesspools in the area all of which have been emptied during the year; some twice and some three times. In all 224 cleansings were effected during the year.

Public Conveniences

There are seven for male and three for female in the area, all of which receive daily attention—two are cleansed twice daily.

The sum of £11 7s. 11d. has been collected during the year.

Salvage

Three vehicles together with four trailers are constantly employed on the collection of salvage, a fortnightly house to house collection being maintained. This work is carried out with female labour.

In all 2,897 loads of waste materials were collected and sorted.

The total amount of waste materials sold and returned to industry was 755 tons, a decrease of $203\frac{1}{2}$ tons over 1944. This is attributed to the general feeling that as hostilities had ceased it was unnecessary to save paper, etc.

The decrease was made up of $106\frac{1}{2}$ tons waste food and $85\frac{1}{4}$ tons waste paper, with smaller reduction of other materials.

There are 375 waste food bins throughout the district, these being emptied twice weekly, 203 loads being collected.

These communal food bins are a source of nuisance due to the fact that they are being constantly knocked over by either persons or animals.

The following is the statement of expenditure and income for the year ending 31st March, 1946 :

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
			£				£
Salaries and Wages	...	...	1,458	Waste Paper	...	...	1,866
Superannuation	...	...	42	Textiles	...	...	278
Repairs and Maintenance of Buildings	...	...	2	Bottles, Broken Glass, etc	...	...	460
Haulage	...	...	940	Scrap Metal	...	...	148
Materials and other expenses	...	...	412	Tins	...	...	217
Equipment purchased	...	...	80	Bones	...	...	45
Net Income	...	...	427	Kitchen Waste	...	...	339
				Batteries and Tyres	...	...	2
				Sundries	...	...	6
			<u>£3,361</u>				<u>£3,361</u>

The following are the weights and values of the materials salvaged during the past six years, 1st April, 1940, to the 31st March, 1946 :

	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
Paper	317½	371	365	309½	310¾	225½
Tins	213	155½	216	174½	129	122
Metal	100	74½	92	37	24½	42½
Broken Glass, Jars & Bottles	77	102¾	190½	167	130	110
Condemned Meat	1½	1½	2½	1½	1½	1½
Household Bones	8	8	13½	14	15	8½
Textiles	20½	38	36	34	25¼	18½
Kitchen Waste	58½	303½	332	400½	320	226½
Rubber	—	2¾	16	11	2½	—
Batteries	—	8½	—	11	—	—
	<u>796</u>	<u>1,066</u>	<u>1,263½</u>	<u>1,160</u>	<u>958½</u>	<u>755</u>

	£	£	£	£	£	£
Paper	1,352	1,606	2,448	2,467	2,301	1,866
Tins	293	252	439	273	231	217
Metal	231	234	283	94	81	148
Broken Glass, Jars & Bottles	169½	447	780	639	447	460
Condemned Meat and Household Bones	32	45	54	66	65	45
Textiles	90	247	624	499	438	278
Kitchen Waste	89	510	540	595	483	339
Rubber and Batteries ...	3	12	33	43	11	9
	<u>2,259½</u>	<u>3,353</u>	<u>5,201</u>	<u>4,676</u>	<u>4,057</u>	<u>3,361</u>

H. J. PARKER,

Cleansing Superintendent.



